

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An editing apparatus for editing coded data coded in a predetermined unit to be stored into a storage medium, comprising:

designation means for designating an editing position of the coded data;

evaluation means for evaluating a playback state according to a playback standby time required to start playback after an instruction to play back the coded data ~~when the coded data are played back~~ from the editing position designated by said designation means; and

notification means for notifying a user of said editing apparatus of an evaluation result by said evaluation means.

2. (Currently Amended) An editing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said evaluation means outputs, as the evaluation result, a playback standby time required to start playback ~~outputting~~ after an instruction to play back ~~and output~~ the coded data from the editing position is issued.

3. (Previously Presented) An editing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said evaluation means outputs a playback continuity degree representative of continuity of playback based on the playback standby time to be outputted, and

said notification means causes the playback continuity degree outputted from  
said evaluation means to be displayed on a display section.

4. (Previously Presented) An editing apparatus according to claim 2,  
wherein said evaluation means arithmetically operates, as the playback standby time, at  
least a data readout time required to read out packet data including a plurality of coded  
data units from the top of the packet data to that one of the coded data units which  
includes the editing position.

5. (Previously Presented) An editing apparatus according to claim 2,  
wherein the storage medium is a disk,

said editing apparatus further comprising:

readout means for accessing a predetermined position of the disk to read  
out data recorded at the predetermined position of the disk,

said evaluation means arithmetically operating, as the playback standby time, at  
least a time required to read out header information of packet data including a plurality  
of coded data units and an access time required for said readout means to access the  
disk in accordance with a physical top address of one of the coded data units which  
includes the editing position detected from the header information.

6. (Previously Presented) An editing apparatus according to claim 4,  
wherein said evaluation means arithmetically operates, as the playback standby time, a  
decoding time required to decode the coded data unit including the editing position up to

the coded data including the editing position, the playback standby time being arithmetically operated by addition of the decoding time to the data readout time.

7. (Previously Presented) An editing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

determination means for determining the editing position; and

updating means for updating a script for controlling playback of the coded data recorded on the recording medium in response to the editing position determined by said determination means;

the script being stored in a corresponding relationship to the coded data into the storage medium.

8. (Previously Presented) An editing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the storage medium has a plurality of coded data stored therein, said editing apparatus further comprising:

selection means for selecting one of the plurality of coded data;

decoding means for decoding the coded data selected by said selection means and outputting resulting decoded data; and

outputting means for outputting the decoded data in a predetermined unit,

said updating means recording the last unit when first coded data to be obtained by division of the coded data based on the editing position is outputted in the predetermined unit by said outputting means and the top unit of second coded data succeeding the first coded data into the script,

said selection means being operable to select one of the first coded data and the second coded data,

said decoding means and said outputting means being operable to decode and output only one of the first coded data and the second data selected in accordance with the script.

9. (Previously Presented) An editing apparatus for editing coded image data having a plurality of groups of picture, comprising:

a decoding section for decoding the coded image data and outputting decoded image data;

a display section for displaying the decoded image data outputted from said decoding section;

a display control section for controlling said display section to temporarily stop the display with a frame or field at a desired position of the decoded image data displayed by said display section in accordance with an instruction of a user; and

an evaluation section for evaluating, when the decoded image data are divided into first image data and second image data in accordance with the instruction of the user, a playback state of the second image data;

said display control section controlling said display section to display an evaluation result by said evaluation section.

10. (Previously Presented) An editing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said evaluation section accesses packet data including a group of picture

corresponding to a desired position of the decoded image data to read out the packet data, analyses the read out packet data, detects a position of the group of picture corresponding to the desired position in response to a result of the analysis, and arithmetically operates a data readout time based on the position of the group of picture.

11. (Previously Presented) An editing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said evaluation section detects the coded image data corresponding to the desired position in the detected group of picture, analyzes the image data to arithmetically operate data decoding time which is decoding time for the coded image data, and adds the data readout time and the data decoding time to arithmetically operate the playback standby time.

12. (Previously Presented) An editing apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising a readout section for reading out data from a disk on which the coded image data are recorded.

13. (Previously Presented) An editing apparatus according to claim 12, said disk is an optical disk comprising:

first tracks including a wobbled track and a non-wobbled track each implemented by either a land or a groove where a wobbled track is a track with both side surfaces thereof wobbled whereas a non-wobbled track is a track with neither of side surfaces thereof wobbled; and

second tracks each sandwiched by said first tracks and used for recording data wherein if said first track is implemented by a groove,

said second track is implemented by a land and if said first track is implemented by a land, said second track is implemented by groove.

14. (Previously Presented) An editing apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising:

an image pickup section for photoelectrically converting light reflected from an image pickup object into image data;

a compression section for compressing the image data into the coded image data in accordance with the MPEG system; and

a recording section for recording the compressed coded image data onto the disk.

15. (Previously Presented) An editing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein coded audio data are recorded on the disk.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of editing coded data coded in a predetermined unit to be stored into a storage medium, comprising the steps of:

designating an editing position of the coded data;

evaluating a playback state according to a playback standby time required to start playback after an instruction to play back the coded data ~~when the coded data are played back~~ from the designated editing position; and

notifying a user of a result of the evaluation.

17. (Previously Presented) A method of editing coded image data having a plurality of groups of picture, comprising the steps of:

- decoding the coded image data and outputting decoded image data;
- displaying the outputted decoded image data on a display section;
- temporarily stopping the display with a frame or field at a desired position of the displayed decoded image data in accordance with a user instruction; and
- evaluating, when the decoded image data are divided at the desired position into first image data and second image data, a playback state of the second image data;

and

- displaying a result of the evaluation on the display section.

18. (New) An editing apparatus for editing coded data coded in a predetermined unit to be stored into a storage medium, comprising:

- a designator for designating an editing position of the coded data;
- an evaluator for evaluating a playback state according to a playback standby time required to start playback after an instruction to play back the coded data from the editing position designated by said designator; and
- a notifier for notifying a user of said editing apparatus of an evaluation result by said evaluator.